Annual Report of M.O.H.

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TINTWISTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1942.

Madam, Gentlemen,

Once more I have to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1942 while we are engaged in one of the greatest conflicts in the history of the human race. Happily, with the exception of individuals - to whom I offer my sincerest sympathy - this conflict has touched the inhabitants of Tintwistle on the whole but little compared to the sufferings endured by other communities in this Island.

During 1942 the village appears to have enjoyed excellent health, the number of notifiable diseases reported to me being even less than last year. From the health point of view one of the gravest problems which must be remedied soon, is that of the insufficient water supply. Last summer was an extremely wet one yet few houses in the village had a continuously efficient flow of water and in many, notably in West Street, Conduit Street and the Speedwell Estate, also other areas the supply was almost non-existent for several days at a time on numerous occasions. Although the Authorities now report of more satisfactory supply this does not agree with statements recently made by several residents. The fact that the water runs short at the week-end simply because domestic clothes boilers are being filled in preparation for the weekly wash, clearly points to an insufficient supply. What would happen if every house were fitted with a minimum of one bathroom and water closet as it ought to be to comply with decent standards of hygiene? It is to be hoped that before any new houses are erected a completely adequate water supply will be guaranteed not only to them but to the existing houses.

Another unsatisfactory condition to which I would like to draw your attention again is the large number of houses which have to share lavatories. It is to be hoped that as soon as possible after the cessation of hostilities, steps will be taken to ensure that every house has its own water closet.

Among the Infectious and other notifiable diseases there have been two cases of acute pneumonia and two of scarlatina, all of which recovered satisfactorily; statistics of the milder infectious diseases are not reliable because many cases occur which are never seen by a Doctor and are not notified at all. There have been some cases of scabies in common with the epidemic which has spread all over the country; this disease cannot be said to have more than a nuisance value. I have approached both Hyde and Glossop Public Health Authorities with regard to obtaining treatment at their centres but so far have not had a definite reply. The number of cases likely to occur in Tintwistle does not appear to justify the setting up of an adequately fitted treatment centre in the village.

With regard to Diphtheria Immunisation, ~~XXX~~ 129 Tintwistle children had been completely immunised by me to December 31st, 1942.

Tuberculosis: on December 31st, 1942, only six cases were on the Register, e.g. 5 Females and 1 Male. No new cases were notified during the year.

I would also like to draw your attention to the fact that there were no deaths under 50; the majority occurred between 60 and 80, the total deaths of Tintwistle Residents being 11 and births 10.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

Norah E. Fenton M.B. Ch.B.

Estimated Population.	1550
Annual death rate for every 1000 persons living, for the year ~~ending~~	8.1
Birth rate ditto ditto	7.4
Annual death rate for every 1000 persons living for last year	9.3
Birth rate, last year.	7.4